

**To:** Vonda Matthews[vmatthews@anngreencomm.com]  
**Cc:** Mary A. Green[mgreen@anngreencomm.com]  
**From:** Vonda Matthews  
**Sent:** Wed 9/7/2016 10:01:46 PM  
**Subject:** EPA Adds CFAC Site to NPL List

Dear Panel Member:

Please find imbedded in this email two press releases. The first release is CFAC's response to the site being listed. The second release is that which the agency issued. At the bottom of the agency's press release and highlighted in yellow, you will find a link to the official announcement from the agency.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mary Green at 1-800-784-4343.

Sincerely,

Vonda

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**For further information, contact:**

**John Stroiazzo**

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**Phone: 647-292-5767**

**CFAC Responds to Site Listing on National Priorities List**

Columbia Falls, MT, September 7, 2016--Columbia Falls Aluminum Company (CFAC) notes the announcement by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stating the CFAC site will be placed on the National Priorities List, and a notice of this decision will appear in Friday's Federal Register.

"Needless to say, we are disappointed and believe listing the site is not in the best interest of the project or the community," said John Stroiazzo, CFAC Project Manager. "The Superfund process does not benefit the project at this time and changes nothing during the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS), a process that was agreed to in the language of the Administrative Order on Consent (AOC)."

Stroiazzo added CFAC negotiated with the EPA to include language in the AOC for the investigation of the CFAC site that would have allowed the property to be addressed under the Superfund Alternative Process (SAP). CFAC believes that if the site had been addressed under the SAP, it would have enhanced the opportunities to redevelop the site in a much faster timeframe and allow it to contribute to the local economy.

"We do appreciate the community and the many who expressed their opinion that the agency should postpone the listing. Although a dissimilar decision was made by the federal government, CFAC and its team remain committed to the AOC and will conduct our work in a professional and safe manner. The company also will continue to keep the community informed throughout this process," Stroiazzo concluded.

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## **News Releases from Region 08**

# **EPA adds Columbia Falls Aluminum Company site to Superfund list**

09/07/2016

## Contact Information:

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406-457-5032

(Denver, Colo. – September 7, 2016) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will add the Anaconda Aluminum Company's Columbia Falls Reduction Plant site, also known as the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company (CFAC) site, in Columbia Falls, Montana, to the National Priorities List (NPL) on September 9, 2016. Sites on the NPL are often referred to as Superfund sites. Superfund is the federal program that investigates and cleans up contamination at sites that pose a risk to human health and the environment.

"The addition of the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company site to the National Priorities List will ensure the comprehensive investigation and cleanup of contaminants and help secure future opportunities for the reuse of this prominent property along the Flathead River," said Shaun McGrath, EPA Region 8 Administrator. "EPA's action is based on a thorough review of site data and input from the local community."

The CFAC site is located outside Columbia Falls near the south entrance of Glacier National Park. The CFAC plant operated between 1955 and 2009 and created significant quantities of spent potliner material, a federally listed hazardous waste, as a byproduct of the aluminum smelting process. Spent potliner material is known to contain cyanide compounds that can leach into groundwater. Other contaminants of potential concern at the site include various metals, organic compounds, hydrocarbons, polychlorinated biphenyl compounds, and pesticides.

A remedial investigation of the CFAC site is underway and is being completed by CFAC and its contractors through an administrative agreement signed in November of 2015.

This effort includes an investigation of soils, river sediments, and ground and surface water. When completed, the investigation will detail the nature and extent of contamination, identify potential risks to human health and the environment, and inform any necessary cleanup requirements and alternatives.

EPA proposed the CFAC site for addition to the NPL on March 26, 2015. The agency carefully considered all comments received during the public comment period for the proposal. EPA will coordinate with the community of Columbia Falls to schedule public meetings and other outreach opportunities to discuss next steps and outline how the public can engage in the Superfund process moving forward.

For more information and access to site documents, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/columbia-falls>.

For information about Superfund and sites being finalized or proposed for addition to the NPL: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/current-npl-updates-new-proposed-npl-sites-and-new-npl-sites>

Contact Us to ask a question, provide feedback, or report a problem.

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